[English]

"Who Reports on River Pollution"

5448. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation in its report has brough out the great danger to health posed by Indian rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The World Health Organisation in their report on "Global Pollution and Health" have pointed out the high levels of organic and fecal pollution caused by the discharge of untreated sewage in parts of Asia including India. They have also indicated the possibility of the consequential health effects.

(c) and (d). The Government have already taken various steps for the prevention, control and abatement of river pollution which include the following:

(i) Effluent standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

(ii) A network of ambient water quality monitoring stations have been set up;

(iii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries;

(iv) Prosecutions have been launched against some of the industries causing river pollution;

(v) Fiscal incentives are provided and loan facilities made available for installation of pollution control equipment;

(vi) A scheme has been initiated to give assistance to cluster of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and to provide loans to large and medium scale units under the World, Bank assisted programme.

(vii) The Central Government have issued a notification in consultation with the State Governments requiring industries to meet the effluent standards within a time-frame;

(viii) A special project was taken up to bring about improvement in the water quality of the Ganga under the Ganga Action Plan.

Mismanagement in Ranthambore National Park

5449. DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the tigers and dear are likely to be endangered in the Ranthambore National Park due to negligence in the management of the Park; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) There is no report of negligence in the management of Ranthambore National Park Hence, the tigers and dear are not likely to be endangered there

(b) Do not arise

Electrification of Ghaziabad-Meerut Line

5450. DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any plan for the electrification of railway line between Ghaziabad and Meerut,

(b) if so, whether any fund has been allotted for this project,

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) if so when the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

[*Translation*]

Facilities on Hathras Fort Station

5451 DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the passenger facilities available on Hathras Fort Station are inadequate,

(b) if so, remedial measures contemplated by the Government in this regard,

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal for expansion of the Station, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

[*English*]

Health Ministers' Conference

5452 SHRI BALRAJ PASSI
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA
SHRI RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether his Ministry is proposing that persons with more than two children should be debarred from contesting elections from Panchayat to Parliament

(b) whether general consensus was received from all Health Ministers of all States at a meeting held in New Delhi on January 1, 1992, and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) (a) to (c) The proposal to debar persons with more than two children from contesting elections from Panchayat to Parliament, prospectively and not retrospectively, has been unanimously endorsed in the Conference of Ministers incharge of